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A short story of the battle
of Gettysburg

A Short Story of the BATTLE of GETTYSBURG

As Told by Guides Conducting Parties Over the Field



Published by WM. H. ALLISON

PRICE 35c

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A Short Story
of the
Battle of Gettysburg

As Told by the Guides Conducting Parties Over the Field

By
WILLIAM H. ALLISON

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MRS. WILLIAM H. ALLISON

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FOREWORD

During the many years of our experience as Guides on the Battlefield of Gettysburg, we have felt the need of a short story of the Battle which should give a simple and plain idea of the movements of the two Armies. We have therefore prepared this brief account.

NORTH



Map of Battlefield

LEE AND MEADE AT GETTYSBURG

THE Battlefield of Gettysburg covers twenty-five square miles or sixteen thousand acres of land. This ground was actually fought over during the three days, July 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1863. The battle was the turning point of the Civil War. Altogether there were 165,000 men engaged, representing America's "best" on the two sides.

The Army of the Potomac or Federal Army, numbering 85,000 men of all arms, was commanded by Major General George Gordon Meade, who ranks as one of the greatest generals of the Civil War. General Meade was without the aid of political pull in rising to the command of the army and never received the credit he deserved. The view of the soldier in the ranks is expressed in an address at the reunion of Shaler's Brigade, Sixth Corps, in 1888, by a private who said: "General Meade was no hurrah soldier. . . . I repeat that to my mind—a soldier in the ranks—he was the greatest strategist, fighter and soldier that ever commanded our army."

Jefferson Davis is quoted as saying: "My idea is that Meade was the most skilled general in the Federal Army. General Lee once said to me that he could understand the movements of all the generals in the Federal Army easier than those of General Meade."

The Army of Northern Virginia or Confederate Army numbered 80,000 men of all arms, and was commanded by General Robert E. Lee, who had proved himself a peerless leader; a leader who had been victorious for over a year, and in whom the Army and the South had the utmost confidence. Marshal Foch when asked whom he considered the greatest generals is quoted as saying "Napoleon and Lee."

Today there are over twelve hundred monuments and markers on the field, erected at a cost of \$4,000,000. These monuments and markers stand upon the ground occupied during the battle by the different organizations, where men of North and South fought hand to hand.

It is a curious fact that the two armies came into the town of Gettysburg from directions exactly opposite from what the reader would imagine, the Union or Federal Army from the south, and the Southern or Confederate Army from the west and north.

It was also curious and interesting that the selection of Gettysburg was entirely an accident. Marching north after his decisive victory over Hooker at Chancellorsville, General Lee was aiming for Harrisburg which he had selected for his first objective point on account of its being the railroad center of the north. He also contemplated at the same time moving toward Philadelphia. Thus he would draw the Federal Army northward away from their base of supplies. If, during this campaign through the state of Pennsylvania the enemy presented himself for battle he would fight and if successful move on toward Baltimore and Washington.

In the meanwhile, the Union Commander, Major General Joseph E. Hooker, was moving his forces northward through Maryland trying to keep between the Confederate Army and Washington. On arriving at Frederick, Md., thirty-four miles south of Gettysburg, he made the request that he be relieved of his command. On the morning of the 28th day of June, 1863, General Hardie arrived in Frederick with the order placing Major General George G. Meade in command as Hooker's successor.



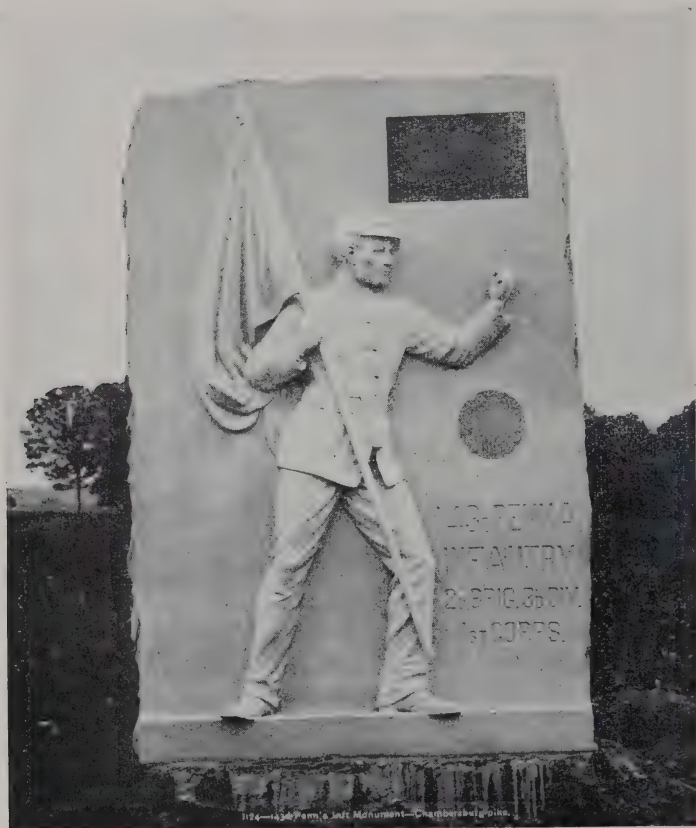
17th Pennsylvania Cavalry Monument

General Lee after moving northward through the Shenandoah and Cumberland Valleys had reached the vicinity of Chambersburg, twenty-five miles northwest of Gettysburg, Harrisburg thirty-seven miles north and York twenty-eight miles east, covering a radius of sixty or more miles.

Moving rapidly north, his scouts keeping him thoroughly informed as to the movements of the enemy, General Meade foresaw that a battle was inevitable.

and selected Pipe Creek Heights, twelve miles south of Gettysburg, as the most advantageous situation, but riding into Gettysburg itself on June 30 Major General John Buford, a cavalry officer, observed that it was the meeting place of eleven roads, and that the heights about the town offered fine positions for defense. He forwarded this decision to General Meade, advising his advance.

Buford's Division of Cavalry, leading Meade's advance, occupied the town of Gettysburg on the morning of June thirtieth. That afternoon a Confederate



143rd Pennsylvania Infantry Monument

Brigade of Infantry (Pettigrew's) belonging to Heth's Division, A. P. Hill's Corps, approached from the west by way of the Chambersburg road. These two bodies of troops meeting by accident brought on the Battle of Gettysburg, which began on the morning of July first.

First Day's Battle

Buford's Cavalry, on the night of June 30th, camped west of Gettysburg on the Chambersburg road. On the morning of July first the battle opened between them and the skirmishers of Heth's Division. Being driven back, Buford dismounted Gamble's Brigade and used them as Infantry along what is called Willoughby Run, with Devin's Brigade guarding the Mummasburg road and approaches from the north.

Buford's men held the enemy in check until the arrival of Major General John F. Reynolds at nine o'clock. Reynolds commanded the left wing of the Federal Army, consisting of the First, Third and Eleventh Corps. The First Corps arriving at 10 A. M. relieved the cavalry, taking positions with their left resting on the Hagerstown road, the line extending northward to the Mummasburg road, along what is known as McPherson and Oak Ridges. During an attack made by Archer's Brigade, C. S. A., through what is now called Reynolds' Woods, General Reynolds was killed about ten-thirty. Major General Abner Doubleday then assumed command of the First Corps.

While the battle was raging west of the town, Early's and Rodes' Divisions of Ewell's Corps, C. S. A., were approaching from the north, Rodes' Division occupying Oak Hill, Early's Division following by way of the Harrisburg road.

Meanwhile the Union troops continued to advance from the south. Major General O. O. Howard with the Eleventh Corps reached the field at twelve-thirty. He learned at once of the death of Reynolds and by right of seniority assumed command of the troops assembled at Gettysburg and established his headquarters on East Cemetery Hill, south of the town.

Two divisions of the Eleventh Corps, Major General Barlow's and Schimpfennig's, under the command of General Carl Schurz were found north of the town, the left resting upon the Mummasburg road, the right upon the Harrisburg road. Steinwehr's Division, held in reserve, occupied the heights of Cemetery Hill with the Corps Artillery.

The two Confederate Corps, Ewell's attacking from the north and Hill's from the west, were successful in driving the Federal forces from the field in disorder. They retreated through the town to Cemetery Ridge.

By this time Major General Winfield S. Hancock had arrived on Cemetery Hill, ordered thither by General Meade to assume command of the Federal forces. If, in his judgment, the ground was suitable for an engagement, he was to notify Meade. Hancock restored order in the badly confused Federal ranks. When Major General Henry Slocum arrived with the Twelfth Corps, Hancock immediately turned over the command and started for Taneytown, Md., fourteen miles south of Gettysburg, to give Meade a verbal account of the situation, but Meade not waiting the arrival of a message, had already started to concentrate his army at Gettysburg and the Federal Army was on the march.

General Lee had arrived upon the field of battle at four-thirty P. M. Upon occupying the town of Gettysburg he decided not to attack the Federal troops, owing to the resistance offered. He established his headquarters along Seminary

Ridge near the buildings of the Lutheran Theological Seminary. Darkness rapidly approaching gave the two commanders an opportunity to perfect their plans for the morrow.

General Meade arrived upon the field, shortly after midnight, and established his headquarters along the Taneytown road, in the rear of Cemetery Ridge.

Second Day's Battle

At daybreak on July second, General Meade began reforming his line of battle, following the positions occupied the previous day by General Hancock. The right of the Federal line rested upon a small stream known as Rock Creek, extending westward over Culp's Hill to Cemetery Hill and then turning southward on Cemetery Ridge, with the left resting on the Round Tops. The whole line of the Federal Army, having a front four miles in length, resembled a huge fishhook.

At the same time the Confederate soldiers were preparing for the coming struggle. The left rested upon Rock Creek at the base of Culp's Hill. From there the line extended through the town of Gettysburg to Seminary Ridge, following that ridge southward to directly west of the Round Tops, the line being six miles in length, from left to right.

General Lee had instructed his Corps Commanders that on July second, three attacks would be made upon the Federal line. Lieutenant General James Longstreet's Corps was to make the attack upon Little Round Top. Lieutenant General A. P. Hill with his corps was to move against the center while Lieutenant General Richard S. Ewell's Corps was to make the attack upon the Federal right at Culp's Hill. These attacks were to be made simultaneously so that Meade would be unable to withdraw men from one end of his line to assist the other. However, Lee's orders were not carried out as planned.

In the meantime, some changes had been made in the Federal line. Major General Daniel E. Sickles, who had arrived with the Third Army Corps, had been instructed by General Meade to occupy Little Round Top, and connect the right of his line with the left of Hancock's 2nd Corps. Dissatisfied with his position, Sickles on his own responsibility, ordered the two Division commanders of his Corps to move forward and occupy a slight elevation of ground along the Emmitsburg road, the right of the line resting upon the Codori building, the center near the Peach Orchard, the left extending southeastward to Devil's Den. The line resembled a triangle with the apex at the Peach Orchard. By this advance movement, Little Round Top was left unoccupied, though it was the key to the Union position. When the error was discovered it was too late to correct it, and General Meade decided to support Sickles in his position, although it left unoccupied ground between the Third Corps and Little Round Top.

The attack was made at three P. M. At once Hood's Division of Longstreet's Corps struck this part of the line, charging up the rugged slope of Little Round Top. Fortunately at this time Brigadier General G. K. Warren, Chief of the Engineer Corps of the Federal Army, arrived upon the summit of the hill.



Smith's 4th N. Y. Battery. Big Round Top in Distance

Realizing the importance of the position, he immediately sent for reinforcements and succeeded in placing several regiments on the hill in time to meet and defeat the enemy. It was this action of Warren's that saved Little Round Top (the key of the Union position) from falling into the hands of the Confederates.

In the meantime the remainder of Longstreet's Corps, assisted by three Brigades of Anderson's Division of A. P. Hill's Corps was pressing upon Sickles' whole line. Sickles was soon carried from the field severely wounded and Major General David A. Birney then assumed command of the Third Corps. Though assisted by parts of every Corps of the Union Army, with the exception of the Eleventh, the line was finally driven back to the original position Sickles was directed to take.

During the attacks on the Federal left Johnson and Early's Division of Ewell's Corps advanced at about seven-thirty P. M. toward Culp's Hill and East Cemetery Hill, the Union right. Slocum having vacated part of his position to support Sickles had left the lower part of his earthworks unoccupied. These were captured that night by Johnson's Division. Early's attacks on East Cemetery Hill were repulsed with quite a loss to the Confederates, after a terrific hand-to-hand struggle. It was in this charge that part of the Louisiana Tigers, who were noted for their bravery and their famous rebel yell, lost a number of men.

Again night intervened in the great struggle between North and South with all forces of both Armies upon the sorrowful field of battle. Both Commanders-in-Chief summoned their officers of high rank for Councils of War.

General Meade must determine whether to hold his present position, fighting a defensive battle, to assume the offensive and attack Lee, or to retreat to Pipe Creek Heights, Md., where he had originally planned to fight if necessary. About midnight he decided to remain in his present position and await the outcome of the battle.

Lee also talked with his chieftains. He had proposed to do three things, to turn the Union left and the Union right and to pierce the center. He had not succeeded in either of the first two—what would be the result of the third? He did not look forward with the same high confidence to the morrow as he had looked forward to this day.

Third Day's Battle

Early on the morning of July third Slocum's Twelfth Corps drove Johnson's Division, reinforced by part of Rodes' and Early's Divisions, all belonging to Ewell's Corps, C. S. A., from the earthworks at the foot of Culp's Hill, which they had taken on the evening of the second. The fight started at three-thirty A. M. and lasted until eleven A. M., the Federal soldiers capturing several hundred prisoners in the struggle.

From eleven A. M. until one P. M. everything was quiet on the entire field. Both sides were preparing for the final struggle.

Pickett's Charge

At the Council of War on the night of the second, General Lee proposed to attack the Federal center on July third. Having been reinforced by Pickett's Division, Longstreet's Corps, which had been guarding the wagon trains coming from Chambersburg, and also Stuart's Cavalry, which had been separated from the main army for seven days, he intended making the attack in the following manner: As many guns as possible would be placed on Seminary Ridge. The line when completed numbered one hundred and fifty. At a given signal this row of artillery was to open fire upon the Federal line in the hope of silencing the Federal Batteries posted on Cemetery Ridge. During the artillery fire Major General George E. Pickett was to form his column of Infantry, numbering 18,000 men in all, with the center of the line at Spangler's Woods, so that when the order was given the men at his command would move rapidly toward the Federal line. At the same time Stuart, with the Confederate Cavalry, numbering 8,000 had been directed to move around the Federal right, east of town, and charge the rear of Meade's center. If the plan were successful, the two bodies of troops making the attack from front and rear would bisect the Union line and Lee could cut it up in detail as he pleased.

On the Federal side, Meade had been preparing his line of defense. Major General Henry J. Hunt, his chief of Artillery, had placed eight guns in position, ranging from Cemetery Hill to Little Round Top. Owing to the nature of the ground, he was unable to equal in number the Confederate Artillery. The Infantry was busy building stone walls and intrenchments. Hancock commanding the Union center with the Second Corps held the Angle, where the High Water Mark and clump of trees stand today, the point where Pickett finally made his assault. The Union Cavalry guarded the right and left flanks.

Everything was now ready for the final issue. At one P. M. on July third, two signal shots were heard in the vicinity of the Peach Orchard and immediately the entire row of guns along Lee's front opened fire upon the Federal line. This was answered by the Union Artillery and for two hours raged the greatest Artillery duel in history up to that time. While the duel was going on, General Warren was on the summit of Little Round Top and with the aid of field glasses, noticed Pickett's men moving to take their positions. Thinking the enemy was concentrating to attack the Federal center he notified General Meade. The order was given to the Union Artillerymen to cease firing and prepare for a charge should it be made.

Noticing this, the Confederate leaders thought the Union guns had been silenced because ammunition was running short and this was the time for Pickett to move forward. General Hunt ordered the artillerymen to replace disabled guns and bring up a fresh supply of ammunition. When the charge was made everything was in readiness to receive it.

At three P. M. Pickett's Division and supports moved forward toward their objective; suddenly the Federal guns boomed out and in the face of their fire the Confederate soldiers came across the field as if on dress parade. The Federal



General Warren Statue on Little Round Top

artillery firing into their ranks did terrible execution, the shells tearing holes through the line, but these were quickly filled by the men pressing on from the rear. But it was seen at once that their case was hopeless. In the face of such a fire no troops could endure.

The center of Pickett's line, under the command of Brigadier General Lewis A. Armistead, finally reached the stone wall at the Angle. Armistead with a few of his men crossed the wall, and a hand-to-hand struggle took place among Lieutenant Cushing's guns. The reserves of the Union forces arriving, the Confederates were finally defeated, leaving hundreds of dead and wounded upon the field. The right and left of the column were also repulsed and the sad remnant of that wonderful body of men was forced to retreat toward Seminary Ridge.

Meanwhile another Confederate disaster had occurred. J. E. B. Stuart with the Confederate Cavalry riding towards Meade's right flank was met by Gregg and Custer's Cavalry of the Federal Army and after fighting for almost two hours Stuart was defeated and driven back. Lee's plan of a rear attack did not go through.

During the night of July third, Lee started his retreat and finally re-crossed the Potomac below Hagerstown, Md., on the 13th of July.

Meade, finally following, was too late to make an attack before the Confederate Army had crossed the river. So ended the Gettysburg campaign.



FATHER CORBY

On the afternoon of July 2nd, Longstreet's men were driving the Federal line back at the Wheatfield, Caldwell's Division of the 2nd Corps was ordered to make a counter attack. In that Division was the Irish Brigade from New York, commanded by Colonel Patrick Kelly. Before the charge was made, Father Wil-



Irish Brigade Monument

liam Corby, a Catholic Priest, mounted a rock and gave a short address, during which he reminded the Irish Brigade that the Catholic Church refused a Christian burial to those who fled in battle. He then pronounced a General Absolution.

THE SOLDIER'S NATIONAL CEMETERY

SOON after the Battle, a plot of seventeen acres of land situated on Cemetery Hill, almost in the center of the Federal line, was purchased for a cemetery for the Union dead. In laying out the grounds a semi-circular form was adopted, the head of each body pointing toward a common center, the location of the National Monument.

The Cemetery was dedicated November 19, 1863. Edward Everett was orator of the day, followed by President Lincoln with his wonderful Gettysburg Address, as follows:

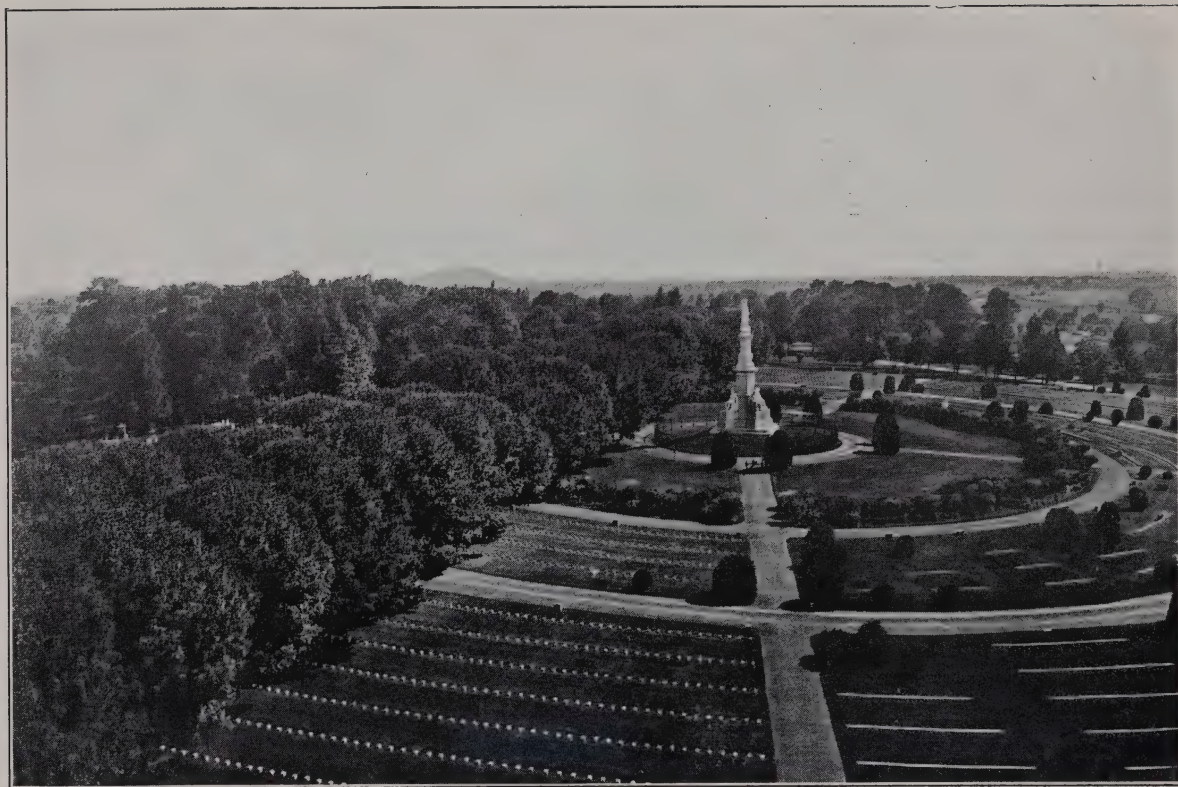
"Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall have not died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

THE WILLS HOUSE

The Wills House, where President Lincoln stayed during his visit here November 18-19th, 1863, still stands on Lincoln Square of Gettysburg. In this house on the second floor is preserved the room occupied by Lincoln, containing all the original furniture, and adjoining this famous room is a Free Museum displaying many mementos, statues, letters, and valuable items connected with Lincoln's visit to Gettysburg on that memorable occasion. A visit to this museum is well worth while.



Soldier's National Cemetery

REMINISCENCES OF GETTYSBURG

John Burns

GENERAL DOUBLEDAY in his official report of the battle says: "My thanks are especially due to a citizen of Gettysburg, named John Burns, who although over seventy years of age, shouldered his musket and offered his services to Colonel Wister, One Hundred and Fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers. Colonel Wister advised him to fight in the woods as there was more shelter there, but he preferred to join our line of skirmishers in the open fields. When the troops retired he fought with the 'Iron Brigade.' He was wounded in three places."

The charge at Balaklava will live forever in song; but the feat shrinks almost to triviality when we consider the facts. According to Kinglake, the Light Brigade took 673 officers and men in that charge; they lost but 113 killed, and 134 wounded, the total being 247, or 36.7 per cent.

The heaviest loss in the German Army, during the Franco-Prussian War, occurred in the Sixteenth Infantry (Third Westphalian) at Mare La Tour, where it lost, in killed, wounded and missing, 49.4 per cent.

But Colonel Fox enumerates no less than sixty-three Union regiments which lost over 50 per cent in single battles of our Civil War, without including others where the statistics are incomplete. In some of these cases the bulk of the losses occurred within an hour. The First Minnesota lost at Gettysburg, in killed and wounded, 82 per cent of the number that went in; the One Hundred and Forty-first Pennsylvania lost 75.7 per cent in the same battle; the One Hundred and First New York lost 73.8 per cent at Manassas; the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts lost 70 per cent at Cold Harbor.

—SAN FRANCISCO ARGONAUT

The Twenty-sixth North Carolina Regiment went into the Gettysburg fight with less than 800 men. It reported 86 killed, 502 wounded—total 588. This does not include 120 missing. In one company of 84, every officer and man was hit, and the orderly, who made out the list did it with a bullet through each leg. This is by far the largest regimental loss on either side during the war.

—CENTURY MAGAZINE

COLONEL JEFFORDS, of the Fourth Michigan Regiment, was killed by a bayonet thrust, while heroically holding up with his own hands the colors of his command.

GENERAL ARMISTEAD, the Confederate, as he was being carried to the rear was met by Captain Bingham, of General Hancock's staff, who asked him if he could do anything for him. General Armistead replied, asking him to take his watch, spurs and letters to Hancock, that they could be sent to his relatives. The request General Hancock complied with, sending them to his friends. He had been shot through the body and fell inside the Federal lines.

AS GENERAL CALDWELL, commanding the 1st Division of the 2nd Corps, crossed the road north of the Wheatfield going into action July 2nd, General Hancock sat upon his horse looking at the troops. As Colonel Cross, of the Fifth New Hampshire Regiment, passed by, he said to him, "Cross, this is the last you'll fight without a star." Without stopping, Cross replied, "Too late, too late, General, this is my last battle." A few minutes afterwards the country lost one of its best soldiers—Cross was dead, shot at the head of his brigade, leading them to the charge.

GENERAL IVERSON, OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY, says in his official report: "The enemy charged in overwhelming force upon, and captured nearly all of my three regiments that were not engaged. When I saw white handkerchiefs raised and my line of battle still lying down in position I characterized the surrender as disgraceful, but when I found afterward that 500 of my men were left lying dead and wounded in a line as straight as a dress parade, I exonerated the survivors and claim for the brigade that they nobly fought and died."

COLONEL FREEMANTLE, OF THE BRITISH ARMY, relates the following: "General Hill said to me that the Yankees in the first day's battle had fought with a determination unusual in them. He pointed to a field in the center of which he had seen a man (Crippen, of the 143rd Pa. Regt.) plant the regimental colors, round which the regiment had fought for some time with much obstinacy; and when at last it was obliged to retreat the colorbearer retreated last of all, turning around every now and then to shake his fist at the advancing Confederates. General Hill said he felt sorry when he saw this gallant Yankee meet his doom."

THIS STORY BY COLONEL FREEMANTLE is found in Blackwood, "He says, carried away by the excitement of Pickett's charge he rushed up to General Longstreet, who was watching the charge, and said: 'General Longstreet isn't this splendid, I wouldn't have missed it for the world?' 'The d—l you wouldn't,' replied Longstreet, 'why don't you see we are getting licked like hell.'"

HOW THE TOWN ESCAPED. Visitors express surprise when told that the town suffered but little damage from shot or shell, but this is easily accounted for. The batteries were placed on opposite hills, the town lying between, and to land shot or shell among their opponents, it was necessary to fire them not through, but over the town, and it was only when they fell short that damage resulted.

BIGELOW'S BATTERY. On the evening of July 2nd, the Twenty-first Mississippi Regiment, of General Barksdale's Brigade, charged Captain Bigelow's Ninth Massachusetts Battery. As they swept forward, the battery tore them with canister, but it was finally exhausted. "Shell without fuse," shouted the brave captain, as the Confederates thronged about the muzzles of his pieces. General McLaws testified to the admirable service of the battery. He reports that one shell killed and wounded nearly a whole company.

GENERAL H. W. SLOCUM, in the North American Review, February, 1891, narrates this interesting incident: "Near the line occupied by the brigade of General J. B. Carr, on the Emmitsburg road, stands a little one story house, which

at the time of the battle was occupied by a Mrs. Rogers and her (adopted) daughter. On the morning of July 2nd, General Carr stopped at the house and found the daughter, a girl of about eighteen years of age, alone busily engaged in baking bread. He informed her that a great battle was inevitable, and advised her to seek a place of safety at once. She said she had a batch of bread baking in the oven and she would remain until it was baked and then leave. When her bread was baked it was given to our soldiers, and devoured so eagerly that she concluded to remain and make another batch. And so she continued to the end of the battle, baking and giving her bread to all who came. The great artillery duel, which shook the earth for miles around, did not drive her from her oven. Pickett's men, who had charged past her house, found her quietly baking her bread and distributing it to the hungry. When the battle was over her house was found to be riddled with shot and shell, and seventeen dead bodies were taken from the house and cellar; the bodies of wounded men who had crawled to the little dwelling for shelter."

Brave Bruce Ricketts

Captain Ricketts was a rather short, slight man, and in boyhood was known as "Runt" Ricketts, his elder brothers being tall men of more than ordinary stature. But his battery blazed a fiery pathway on many a battlefield. At Gettysburg it stood on East Cemetery Hill, and when the Louisiana Tigers charged to the summit and turned one of their own guns upon the men, there was a hand-to-hand fight unequalled for fierceness in modern warfare. Revolvers, bayonets, shovels, handspikes, pickaxes and stones were the weapons used in the struggle, and for a time pandemonium seemed on that particular spot of earth.

Just as the Tigers reached the crest of the hill an artilleryman, pale and trembling with fear, said to Ricketts: "Captain, I'm awful sick. May I go to the rear?"

Ricketts knew that if one man started to run a panic might follow. Drawing a revolver, he pointed it at the fellow's head and said, "If you don't take your place, I'll make you sicker!"

He went back to his post and a few moments later Ricketts saw him in the very thick of the fight, knock a "Tiger" down with a handspike. It was in this juncture in the struggle that Lieutenant Brockway, while fighting to recapture the battery's guidon, killed a rebel by crushing in his skull with a stone.

But all this "is another story."

Not long ago an ex-Confederate officer visited Wilkes-Barre and was introduced to Captain Ricketts. "Ricketts," he said. "That name sounds familiar. I was in the charge on Ricketts' battery at Gettysburg."

"Well," said the gentleman who had introduced them, "this is the commander of that battery."

The Southerner stepped back and surveyed "Runt" Ricketts from head to foot. Then he said, apparently to himself: "And did this little cuss command Battery Hell!"

"Battery Hell" was the forcible, but not altogether inappropriate name bestowed upon this famous battery by the rebels who faced it often and always to their sorrow.

—PITTSBURGH TIMES

During the night of the 2nd, Confederates and Federals mingled freely in obtaining water from Spangler's Spring for the wounded.

J. F. Chase, Cannoneer of the 5th Maine Battery, who received a medal of honor by an Act of Congress for heroic services rendered at the Battle of Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863, and who received 48 wounds at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863, lay upon the battlefield for two days and was taken up for dead. The first words he uttered when he came to were, "Did we win the battle?"

Between 4,500 and 5,000 horses were killed at the Battle of Gettysburg.

On the evening of the 2nd, Captain Chester was wounded and left upon the field; after nightfall he was found near a large rock, alive, but terribly wounded. His horse and orderly both lay dead beside him, and across his legs lay a Confederate soldier, whom he had killed with his revolver whilst in the act of plundering him of his watch. He was tenderly conveyed to the hospital on Rock Creek where he died on the 3rd.

—FROM CIVIL WAR

Every church and public building were used for hospitals. Gettysburg became for the time one vast hospital.

For several hours General Imboden, on the evening of July 3rd, hurried forward on his way to the front, and in all that time was never out of hearing of the groans and cries of the wounded and dying.

Many of the wounded in the wagons had been without food for thirty-six hours. Their torn and bloody clothing, matted and hardened, was rasping the tender, inflamed and still oozing wounds. Few of the wagons had even a layer of straw in them, and all were without springs. The road was rough and rocky, and the jolting was enough to kill strong men, if long exposed to it.

From nearly every wagon as the teams trotted on, urged by whip and shout, came such cries and shrieks as these:

"Oh God, why can't I die?"

"My God, will no one have mercy and kill me?"

"Stop! Oh, for God's sake stop just for one moment! Take me out and leave me to die on the roadside!"

"I am dying! I am dying! My poor wife, my dear children, what will become of you?"

No help could be rendered to any of the sufferers. On! On! They must move on. The storm continued, and the darkness was appalling.

"During this one night," says General Imboden, "I realized more of the horrors of war than in all the preceding two years."

—FROM "CENTURY WAR BOOK"

Lieutenant Bayard Wilkeson, commanding Battery G, 4th Regular Artillery, on Barlow's Knoll, was mortally wounded on the afternoon of July 1st. Thirty-six Confederate cannon turned their fire upon his position. Wilkeson, to inspire his men, kept in the saddle and soon had a leg almost severed by a shell. Twisting a tourniquet by means of his belt, he stopped the flow of blood, and with his own hand and a common knife he completed the amputation of the leg. Water was brought to him to drink—when one of his men begged for a swallow, and Wilkeson handed him the canteen saying: "I can wait!" In this terrible situation he thought more of having his guns served than of saving himself. He died during the night, from loss of blood.

Of the 27,574 muskets picked up on the battlefield of Gettysburg and turned into the Washington Arsenal at least 2,400 were loaded. About one-half of this number contained two charges each, one-fourth contained from three to ten charges and the balance one charge each. The largest number of cartridges found in any one piece was twenty-three. In some cases the paper of cartridges was unbroken, and in others the powder was uppermost.

—BENTON'S ORDNANCE AND GUNNERY, page 341

The great battles of the Civil War were: Gettysburg, Spotsylvania, Wilderness, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Chickamauga, Cold Harbor, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Shiloh, Stone River, and Petersburg. Gettysburg was the greatest battle of the war—Antietam the bloodiest. The largest army was assembled by the Confederates at the Seven Days' Fight; by the Federals at the Wilderness.

General Harry Heth, whose division opened the Battle of Gettysburg on the Confederate side, says, as he ordered Pettigrew's and Brockenbrough's brigades forward to the relief of Davis' and Archer's brigades on the morning of July 1st, he was struck on the head by a Minie ball and fell unconscious, in which condition he lay for thirty hours. The hat worn by Heth on this occasion was too large for his head—he had folded a newspaper and placed the same inside, around the band. This paper saved his life—the bullet glancing followed the paper band—but left a deep dent in his skull.

General H. J. Hunt, Chief of Artillery, says: "There were expended upon the field of Gettysburg, five hundred and sixty-nine tons of deadly missiles, including all the various kinds of shot, shell, shrapnel and ball known to this country and to Europe."

On a recent visit of General Longstreet to Gettysburg, when asked if he really opposed Pickett's charge, he said he had; that he had earnestly urged General Lee not to attempt it, as the distance was too great, and the position of the Union forces a strong one. He said he was seated on a fence when General Pickett came to him to say that everything was ready, and asked if he should move. "I was so overcome," said General Longstreet, "and was so positive of the failure of the charge, and knew so well that it was only sending thousands of brave souls, the flower of the army, to their graves, that I could not speak, I merely gave a nod of assent, and then the tears rushed to my eyes as I saw those brave fellows rush to a certain death."

—PHILADELPHIA TIMES

Sergeant Barbee, of the Texas Brigade, having reached a rock a little in advance of the line near Devil's Den, stood erect upon it, loading and firing as coolly as if unconscious of danger, while the air around him was fairly swarming with bullets. He soon fell helpless from several wounds; but he held his rock, lying upon the top of it until the stretcher bearers carried him off.

—CENTURY

At Gettysburg there were eighteen States represented in the Army of the Potomac. Eleven States were represented in the Army of Northern Virginia.

The State of Maryland furnished troops for both Armies. It was the one State fighting against itself in the Battle of Gettysburg.

Federal Corps Commanders

1st Corps—Reynolds, Doubleday.	12th—Slocum.
2nd—Hancock.	Cavalry—Pleasanton.
3rd—Sickles, Birney.	Artillery—Hunt.
5th—Sykes.	Artillery Reserves—Tyler.
6th—Sedgwick.	Chief Signal Officer—Norton.
11th—Howard.	Chief Engineer—Warren.

Confederate Corps Commanders

1st Corps—Longstreet.	Chief Engineer—Smith.
2nd Corps—Ewell.	Art. Res. 1st Corps—Walton.
3rd Corps—Hill	2nd Corps—Brown.
Cavalry—Stuart.	3rd Corps—Walker.
Artillery—Pendleton.	

GENERAL EARLY'S REQUISITION. On the afternoon of the 26th of June, General Early arrived at Gettysburg and made the following requisition of the borough authorities: Sixty barrels of flour, 7,000 pounds of pork or bacon, 1,200 pounds of sugar, 600 pounds of coffee, 1,000 pounds of salt, 10 bushels of onions, 1,000 pairs of shoes, 500 hats or \$10,000 in money.

He was answered by Mr. David Kendlehart, President of Council, as follows:

Gettysburg, Pa., June 26, 1863.

General Early:

Sir:—The authorities of the borough of Gettysburg, in answer to the demand made by you upon the said borough and county, say their authority extends but to the borough. That the requisition asked cannot be given, as it is utterly impossible to comply. The quantities required are far beyond that in our possession. In compliance, however, to the demands, we will request the stores to be opened and the citizens to furnish whatever they can of such provisions, etc., as may be asked. Further we cannot promise.

By authority of the Council of the borough of Gettysburg, I hereunto, as President of said board, attach my name.

D. Kendlehart.

General Early that evening received orders to proceed to York and the requisition was not again asked.

Strange to relate out of the town of 2,100 inhabitants, one citizen, Jennie Wade, a girl, nineteen years old, was killed the morning of July 3rd, while baking bread for the Federal soldiers.

This little house still stands on Baltimore Street near the National Cemetery as it was during the Battle of Gettysburg. It now houses one of the finest collections of Civil War relics on display in the town. It is open free to the public.

HISTORIC DOBBIN HOUSE

The historic Dobbin House was built in 1776—is the oldest house in Gettysburg—the first classical school west of the Susquehanna River, and during the Battle of Gettysburg served as a hospital.

The Gettysburg Battlefield Diorama, which shows the highlights of the three days at Gettysburg in miniature with models scaled to the most exact detail, is on the second floor of the building.

The house, which is open to the public, has a display of Civil War period items and curios on the first floor.

The Sculptor's Work

General Meade Statue (Equestrian)	H. K. Bush Brown
General Hancock Statue (Equestrian)	F. Edwin Elwell
General Reynolds Statue (Equestrian)	H. K. Bush Brown
General Slocum Statue (Equestrian)	Potter
General Buford Statue	Kelly
General Reynolds Statue (National Cemetery)	Ward
General Warren Statue	Gerhardt
General Stannard Statue	Gerhardt
Colonel Vincent Statue	O'Kelly
Sedgwick (Equestrian)	H. K. Bush Brown
Lee (Equestrian)	William Sievers
High Water Mark	Bachelor
National Monument	Batterson-Rogers
N. Y. State Monument	Buberl



MEMORIAM

Federal

- Major General George G. Meade. Born in Spain, December 31, 1815. Died November 6, 1872.
- Major General John F. Reynolds. Born in Pennsylvania, 1820. Killed at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863.
- Major General Winfield S. Hancock. Born in Pennsylvania, February 14, 1824. Died February 9, 1886.
- Major General Daniel E. Sickles. Born in New York, October 20, 1822. Died May 3, 1914.
- Major General George Sykes. Born in Delaware, October 9, 1822. Died February 8, 1880.
- Major General John Sedgwick. Born in Connecticut, September 13, 1813. Killed at Spotsylvania, May 8, 1864.
- Major General Oliver O. Howard. Born in Maine, November 8, 1830. Died October 26, 1909.
- Major General Henry W. Slocum. Born in New York, September 24, 1827. Died April, 1894.
- Major General Alfred Pleasanton. Born in District of Columbia, December, 1823. Died February 17, 1897.
- Major General John Buford. Born in Kentucky, 1825. Died December 16, 1863.
- Major General David McM. Gregg. Born in Pennsylvania, April 10, 1833.
- Major General H. Judson Kilpatrick. Born in New Jersey, January 14, 1836. Died December 4, 1881.
- Major General James S. Wadsworth. Born in New York, October 30, 1807. Died from wound, May 8, 1864.
- Major General John C. Robinson. Born in New York, April 10, 1817. Died February 18, 1897.
- Major General Abner Doubleday. Born in New York, 1819. Died January 26, 1893.
- Major General John C. Caldwell. Born in Vermont, April 17, 1833.
- Major General John Gibbon. Born in Pennsylvania, April 20, 1827. Died February 6, 1896.
- Major General Alexander Hays. Born in Pennsylvania, July 8, 1819. Killed May 5, 1864.
- Major General David A. Birney. Born in Alabama, May 29, 1825. Died October 18, 1864.
- Major General Andrew A. Humphreys. Born in Pennsylvania, November 2, 1810. Died December 7, 1883.
- Major General James Barnes. Born in Massachusetts, 1800. Died February 12, 1869.

Major General Romeyn B. Ayres. Born in New York, December 20, 1826. Died December 4, 1888.

Major General S. Wylie Crawford. Born in Pennsylvania, November 8, 1829. Died November 3, 1892.

Major General Horatio G. Wright. Born in Connecticut, March, 1820. Died July 2, 1899.

Major General Albion P. Howe. Born in Maine, March 13, 1818. Died January 25, 1897.

Major General John Newton. Born in Virginia, 1823. Died May 1, 1895.

Major General Frank Wheaton. Born in Rhode Island, May 8, 1833.

Major General Carl Schurz. Born in Prussia, 1829. Died May 14, 1906.

Major General Francis C. Barlow. Born in New York, October 19, 1834. Died January 11, 1896.

Brigadier General Adolph Von Steinwehr. Born in Germany, 1822. Died February 25, 1877.

Brigadier General Alexander Schimmelpfennig. Born in Germany, 1824. Died September 7, 1865.

Major General Alpheus Williams. Born in Connecticut, September 20, 1810. Died December 21, 1878.

Major General Thomas H. Ruger. Born in New York, 1823.

Major General John W. Geary. Born in Pennsylvania, 1819. Died February 8, 1873.

Major General Henry J. Hunt. Born in Michigan, September 14, 1819. Died February 11, 1889.

Major General Robert O. Tyler. Born in New York, 1831. Died December 1, 1874.

Brigadier General George J. Stannard. Born in Vermont, 1820. Died May 31, 1886.

Major General Gouverneur K. Warren. Born in New York, January 8, 1830. Died August 8, 1882.

Brigadier General Stephen H. Weed. Born in New York, 1834. Killed July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg.

Brigadier General Samuel K. Zook. Born in Pennsylvania, 1823. Killed July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg.

Brigadier General Strong Vincent. Born in Pennsylvania. Died of wound July 7, 1863, at Gettysburg.

Brigadier General Elan J. Farnsworth. Born in Michigan, 1837. Killed July 3, 1863, at Gettysburg.

Major General George A. Custer. Born in Ohio, December 5, 1839. Killed June 7, 1876, at Little Big Horn.

Brigadier General E. E. Cross. Born in New Hampshire. Killed July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg.

Confederate

- Major General Robert E. Lee. Born in Virginia, January 19, 1807. Died October 12, 1870.
- Major General James Longstreet. Born in South Carolina, January 8, 1821. Died January 2, 1904.
- Lieutenant General Richard S. Ewell. Born in District of Columbia, February 8, 1817. Died January 25, 1872.
- Lieutenant General Ambrose P. Hill. Born in Virginia, November 9, 1825. Killed April 2, 1865, at Petersburg.
- Major General Lafayette McLaws. Born in Georgia, January 15, 1821. Died January 25, 1897.
- Major General George E. Pickett. Born in Virginia, January 25, 1825. Died July 30, 1875.
- Major General John B. Hood. Born in Kentucky, June 1, 1831. Died August 30, 1879.
- Major General Jubal A. Early. Born in Virginia, November 3, 1816. Died March 2, 1894.
- Major General Edward Johnson. Born in Virginia, April 16, 1816. Died February 22, 1873.
- Major General Robert E. Rodes. Born in North Carolina. Killed at Winchester, September 19, 1864.
- Lieutenant General Richard H. Anderson. Born in South Carolina, 1816. Died June 26, 1879.
- Major General Henry Heth. Born in Virginia, 1825.
- Major General William D. Pendler. Born in South Carolina, February 6, 1834. Died July 18, 1863, from wounds.
- Brigadier General William Barksdale. Born in Tennessee, August 21, 1821. Killed July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg.
- Brigadier General Lewis A. Armistead. Born in North Carolina, February 18, 1817. Killed at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863.
- Brigadier General Richard B. Garnett. Born in Virginia, 1819. Killed at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863.
- Brigadier General James L. Kemper. Born in Virginia, July 11, 1823. Died April 8, 1895.
- Brigadier General James Pettigrew. Born in North Carolina, July 4, 1828. Died from wound, July 16, 1863.
- Major General James E. B. Stuart. Born in Virginia in 1833. Died from wound, May 11, 1864.
- Brigadier General William J. Pegram. Born in Virginia in 1841. Killed April 2, 1865, at Petersburg.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT GETTYSBURG

Gettysburg was founded by James Gettys in 1780, became the county seat in 1800, and was incorporated as a borough, 1806. Population in 1863, 2,100. Population in 1950, 7,200.

Height of Public Square, Gettysburg, 550 feet above tide water. Seminary Ridge (at Seminary), 590. Oak Hill, 614. Barlow's Knoll, 542. Cemetery Hill (National Cemetery), 634. Culp's Hill, 646. Little Round Top, 689. Big Round Top, 804. Cemetery Ridge (at Angle), 600. Seminary Ridge (opposite Angle), 586.

During the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, 55,000 veterans of North and South visited the field.

Approximately 1,000,000 tourists visit the field each year.

The first soldier killed on the Gettysburg battlefield was Sergeant George D. Sandoe, who enlisted on the 20th day of June, 1863, and was mustered into the United States service on the 23rd of June. He was killed on the 26th of June, 1863, while opposing the advance of Early's Division, Ewell's Corps of the Confederate army.

The first soldier killed on the Federal side was Ferdinand Usher, of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry. He was struck by a shell from Marye's Virginia Battery.

The first soldier killed on the Confederate side was Henry Raison, Company B, Seventh Tennessee. He fell on the skirmish line.

The "Iron Brigade," of Reynolds' Corps, had 1,883 effectives; it lost 1,212. Roy Stone's "Bucktail" Brigade had less than 1,200 effectives; it lost 852.

The First Minnesota Regiment went into battle July 2nd with 262 men. It had 215 killed and wounded, a loss of 82 per cent.



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This house is famous for the fact that Jennie Wade was the only citizen of Gettysburg killed during the battle. She lost her life while baking bread. The house is now preserved as a free museum. A rare collection of Civil War relics can be seen here, including the two doors through which passed the bullet that killed Jennie Wade.



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Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here: but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

*President Lincoln's address at Gettysburg, dedicating
the Gettysburg National Cemetery, November 19, 1863*



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